(c) the progress made in achieving its aim so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) As per Bye-law No. 3 of the National Cooperative Union of India, the main objects of the National Cooperative Union of India are to promote and to develop the cooperative movement in India, to educate, guide and assist the people in their efforts to build up and expand the cooperative sector and to serve as an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with cooperative principles as enunciated in the first schedule to the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984.

(b) NCUI was registered on 1st November, 1989 under Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act 1984 and Rules 1985.

(c) National Cooperative Union of India has been monitoring an extensive countrywide cooperative education programme by supporting State Cooperative unions and also running special projects in the field of co-operative education at grass root level for agricultural cooperatives as well as artisans cooperatives. It is instrumental in educating more than 11 lakh members of cooperatives every year. Every three years the NCUI convenes a National Cooperative Congress where basic issues pertaining to cooperative movement are deliberated and recommendations are forwarded to the Government and other agencies for implementation. As an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with the cooperative principles, the NCUI has organised a wide range of seminars conferences, workshops for all types of persons involved in cooperative movement namely leaders, policy makers, executives, Government officials etc. For last two years it has been organising district level seminars in collaboration with State Cooperative Unions for sensitising the people at grass root level regarding impact of new economic policies on cooperatives. Nearly 150 district seminars have been organised so far. The NCUI has also maintained relationships with ICA, ILO, FAO to promote cooperative movement and international cooperative relations.

Retiring Room at Howrah and Sealdah

5004. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no Air conditioned Retiring Room at the Howrah and Sealdah;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to construct A.C. Retiring rooms at Howrah and Sealdah; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) While Howrah and Sealdah stations have no AC retiring room, 8 AC rooms are available in Rail Yatri Niwas at Howrah.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Railway Godowns etc.

5005. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes of the Government regarding the construction of railway godowns, Rail Yatri Niwas and development of the Railway Ticket Printing Press in Ajmer;

(b) whether Government have decided to construct a 'Rail Yatri Niwas' and a Railway godown in Ajmer; and

(c) if so, the full details thereof and the time by which these works would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) At present there is no scheme in this respect.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Accident on Bhusaval-Nagpur Line

5006. DR. G.R. SARODE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a train accident had occurred on Bhusaval-Nagpur line under Bhusaval Division of Central Railway on 8 June, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in addition to the financial assistance any other assistance is likely to be provided to the dependents of the railway employee victims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) There was no train accident on Bhusaval-Nagpur section on 8.6.96, however there was a case of run over of railway employees by 7384 Up Express at the site of work of Ballast cleaning machine between Wadodi-Malkapur stations in which 6 railway employees were killed and 8 were injured.

(c) and (d) Apart from compensation to be given as per the Workman Compensation Act, the dependents of